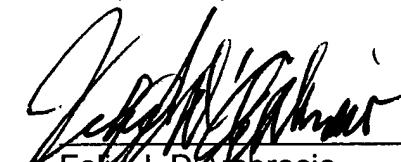


**REMARKS**

In view of the above amendments to the claims, favorable reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims now present in the application are most respectfully requested.

Receipt of the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment of April 19, 2004 is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Felix J. D'Ambrosio  
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Date: May 19, 2004

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